BEFORE THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matt	ter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. W208			
BRADLEY ALFRED MANNING, PH.D.		OAH No. L-2001030679			
	Respondent.				
<u> </u>					
	DECISION AND	ORDER			
	The attached Stipulated Settlement ar	nd Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by			
the Board	of Psychology of the Department of Cons	umer Affairs, as its Decision in this matte			
# [**] * 1	This Decision shall become effective on March 29, 2002				
	It is so ORDEREDFebruary 27, 2002				
	FOR THE BOARD O	F PSYCHOLOGY			

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS MARTIN R. GREENBERG, PHD, PRESIDENT

BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California RAJPAL S. DHILLON, State Bar No. 190583 Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice 300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, California 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-7485 Facsimile: (213) 897-1071

Attorneys for Complainant

BEFORE THE **BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY** DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. W208 OAH No. L-2001030679

Respondent.

STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the above-entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:

PARTIES

- Thomas S. O'Connor ("Complainant") is the Executive Officer of the 1. Board of Psychology. He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this matter by Bill Lockyer, Attorney General of the State of California, by Rajpal S. Dhillon, Deputy Attorney General.
- Bradley Alfred Manning, Ph.D. ("Respondent") is represented in this 2. proceeding by attorney Christopher J. Zopatti, whose address is Callahan, McCune & Willis LLP, 111 Fashion Lane, Tustin, CA 92780.

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JURISDICTION

- 3. On or about January 15, 1982, the Board of Psychology issued Psychologist's License No. PSY7354 to Respondent.
- 4. Accusation No. W208 was filed before the Board of Psychology of the Department of Consumer Affairs ("Board"), and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation, together with all other statutorily required documents, was properly served on Respondent on March 19, 2001, and Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. W208 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. W208. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

8. Respondent admits only that he unintentionally erred in violation of Business and Professions Code section 2960 in his method of forensic evaluation and method of discussing the relationship among L.R., J.S., and C.S. in that he did not sufficiently highlight the qualifications of his findings and recommendations in the format of his report to point out to the

reader of his opinion that they were limited because they were based on information from a source that may be biased or may not be accurate.

9. Respondent agrees that his Psychologist's License No. PSY7354 is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's imposition of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

CONTINGENCY

- 10. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent understands and agrees that the Board's staff and counsel for Complainant may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or his counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 11. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 12. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Psychologist's License No. PSY7354 issued to Respondent Bradley Alfred Manning, Ph.D. is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for three (3) years on the following terms and conditions.

1. <u>EDUCATION REVIEW</u> Respondent shall submit to an educational review concerning the circumstances which resulted in this administrative action. The educational review shall be conducted by a board-appointed expert case reviewer and/or Board

designee familiar with this case. Educational reviews are informational only and intended to benefit Respondent's practice by preventing future such complaints. Respondent shall pay all costs associated with this educational review.

2. <u>COURSEWORK</u> Respondent shall take and successfully complete not less than twelve (12) hours of coursework each year of probation in the following area(s): forensics, child custody, or laws and ethics. Coursework must be <u>preapproved</u> by the Board or its designee. All coursework shall be taken at the graduate level at an accredited educational institution or by an approved continuing education provider. Classroom attendance is specifically required; correspondence or home study coursework shall not count toward meeting this requirement. The coursework must be in addition to any continuing education courses that may be required for license renewal.

Within 90 days of the effective date of this Decision, respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for its prior approval a plan for meeting the educational requirements. All costs of the coursework shall be paid by the respondent.

- 3. <u>ETHICS COURSE</u> Within 90 days of the effective date of this Decision, respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee for <u>prior approval</u> a course in laws and ethics as they relate to the practice of psychology. Said course must be successfully completed at an accredited educational institution or through a provider approved by the Board's accreditation agency for continuing education credit. Said course must be taken and completed within one year from the effective date of this Decision. The cost associated with the law and ethics course shall be paid by the respondent.
- 4. <u>INVESTIGATION/ENFORCEMENT COST RECOVERY</u> Respondent shall pay the Board its costs of investigation and enforcement in the amount of \$3,990 within the first year of probation. Respondent may pay cost recovery quarterly in four (4) equal installments. Such costs shall be payable to the Board of Psychology. Failure to pay such costs shall be considered a violation of probation.

The filing of bankruptcy by respondent shall not relieve respondent of the responsibility to repay investigation and enforcement costs.

5. PROBATION MONITORING COSTS Respondent shall pay the costs associated with probation monitoring each and every year of probation. The costs are currently set at \$96 per month, but may be adjusted on an annual basis. Such costs shall be payable to the Board of Psychology at the end of each fiscal year (July 1 - June 30). Failure to pay such costs shall be considered a violation of probation.

The filing of bankruptcy by respondent shall not relieve respondent of the responsibility to repay investigation and enforcement costs.

- 6. OBEY ALL LAWS Respondent shall obey all federal, state, and local laws and all regulations governing the practice of psychology in California including the ethical guidelines of the American Psychological Association. A full and detailed account of any and all violations of law shall be reported by the respondent to the Board or its designee in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of occurrence.
- 7. QUARTERLY REPORTS Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Board or its designee, stating whether there has been compliance with all the conditions of probation.
- 8. PROBATION COMPLIANCE Respondent shall comply with the Board's probation program and shall, upon reasonable notice, report to the assigned District Office of the Medical Board of California or other designated probation monitor. Respondent shall contact the assigned probation officer regarding any questions specific to the probation order. Respondent shall not have any unsolicited or unapproved contact with 1) complainants associated with the case; 2) Board members or members of its staff; or 3) persons serving the Board as expert evaluators.
- 9. <u>INTERVIEW WITH BOARD OR ITS DESIGNEE</u> Respondent shall appear in person for interviews with the Board or its designee upon request at various intervals and with reasonable notice.
- 10. <u>CHANGES OF EMPLOYMENT</u> Respondent shall notify the Board in writing, through the assigned probation officer, of any and all changes of employment, location, and address within 30 days of such change.

- STATE NON-PRACTICE In the event respondent should leave California to reside or to practice outside the State or for any reason should respondent stop practicing psychology in California, respondent shall notify the Board or its designee in writing within ten days of the dates of departure and return or the dates of non-practice within California. Non-practice is defined as any period of time exceeding thirty days in which respondent is not engaging in any activities defined in Sections 2902 and 2903 of the Business and Professions Code. Periods of temporary or permanent residency or practice outside California or of non-practice within California will not apply to the reduction of this probationary period., although the Board may allow respondent to complete certain terms of probation that are not associated with active practice.
- 12. <u>EMPLOYMENT AND SUPERVISION OF TRAINEES</u> Respondent shall not employ or supervise or apply to employ or supervise psychological assistants, interns or trainees during the course of this probation. Any such supervisorial relationship in existence on the effective date of this probation shall be terminated by respondent and/or the Board.
- 13. <u>FUTURE REGISTRATION OR LICENSURE</u> If respondent is currently registered as a psychological assistant and subsequently obtains other psychological assistant registrations or becomes licensed as a psychologist during the course of this probationary order, respondent agrees that this Decision shall remain in full force and effect until the probationary period is successfully terminated. Future registration or licensure shall not be approved, however, until respondent is currently in compliance with all of the terms and conditions of probation.
- 14. <u>VIOLATION OF PROBATION</u> If respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board may, after giving respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an Accusation or Petition to Revoke Probation is filed against respondent during probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final. No Petition for Modification or Termination of Probation shall be considered while

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there is an Accusation or Petition to Revoke Probation pending against respondent.

15. COMPLETION OF PROBATION Upon successful completion of probation, respondent's license shall be fully restored.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Christopher J. Zopatti. Lunderstand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Psychologist's License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Psychology.

DATED:	-	15-	0	

Respondent

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I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Bradley Alfred Manning, Ph.D. the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve of its form and content.

DATED:

Attorney for Respondent

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ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Psychology of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

DATED: 11/26/01

BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California

RAJPA S. DHILLON Deputy Attorney General

Attorneys for Complainant

Exhibit A
Accusation No. W208

1 BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California 2 RAJPAL S. DHILLON, State Bar No. 190583 Deputy Attorney General 3 California Department of Justice 300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, California 90013 4 Telephone: (213) 897-7485 5 Facsimile: (213) 897-1071 6 Attorneys for Complainant 7 8 BEFORE THE **BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY** 9 DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. W208 BRADLEY ALFRED MANNING, PH.D. 12 ACCUSATION 2321 Walgrove Avenue 13 Los Angeles, CA 90066 Psychologist's License No. PSY7354 14 15 Respondent. 16 17 Complainant alleges: 18 **PARTIES** 19 Thomas S. O'Connor ("Complainant") brings this Accusation solely in his 1. 20 official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Psychology, Department of Consumer 21 Affairs. 22 2. On or about January 15, 1982, the Board of Psychology issued 23 Psychologist's License Number PSY7354 to Bradley Alfred Manning, Ph.D. ("Respondent"). 24 The Psychologist's License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges 25 brought herein and will expire on May 31, 2001, unless renewed.

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JURISDICTION

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Psychology ("Board"), under the authority of the following sections of the Business and Professions Code ("Code").
 - 4. Section 2960 of the Code states:

The board may refuse to issue any registration or license, or may issue a registration or license with terms and conditions, or may suspend or revoke the registration or license of any registrant or licensee if the applicant, registrant, or licensee has been guilty of unprofessional conduct. Unprofessional conduct shall include, but not be limited to:

- (j) Being grossly negligent in the practice of his or her profession.
- 5. Section 2964.6 of the Code states:

An administrative disciplinary decision that imposes terms of probation may include, among other things, a requirement that the licensee who is being placed on probation pay the monetary costs associated with monitoring the probation.

6. Section 125.3 of the Code states, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Gross Negligence)

7. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Code section 2960, subdivision (j), in that respondent committed unprofessional conduct by being grossly negligent in the practice of his profession. The circumstances are as follows:

- 8. On or about November 19, 1998, respondent was retained by L.R. to write a letter to the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services ("County"). L.R. was embroiled in a legal battle with J.S., her ex-husband, over the custody and visitation rights of C.S., the 9 year old son of L.R. and J.S. At the time respondent wrote the letter, J.S. had physical custody of C.S. which he had won through a contentious divorce and custody battle. L.R. had lost her custody rights of C.S. since she had engaged in excessive discipline and abuse of C.S.
- 9. The letter written by respondent was based on certain court documents and the unverified statements of L.R. Despite the fact that the statements of L.R. were unverified, and the fact that he made no attempt to contact J.S. or C.S., respondent wrote a letter to the County on behalf of L.R. and her son C.S. which made certain findings and contained several recommendations. Respondent stated that C.S. exhibited "systematic parental alienation." In addition, he recommended that the County continue to investigate the parental "alienation process" and file an amended petition if they felt it was appropriate. Furthermore, respondent stated in his letter that the County should immediately make orders to address this alienation. The orders that were recommended by the letter were as follows: (a) that all visitation will occur absent a doctor's note, and visitations should be unmonitored; and (b) that shared custody be awarded to L.R.
- 10. Respondent did not qualify his findings and recommendations to point out to the reader that they were limited because they were based on information from a source who was biased and may not be accurate. Nor did respondent make any attempt to corroborate his facts or to obtain the full court documents.

Respondent violated many of the professional guidelines of his profession which are memorialized in the "Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct" ("Code of Conduct") and the "Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychologists" (1991) ("Guidelines").

^{1.} To protect the privacy of the persons involved, only their initials will be used, respondent knows the full names of these persons and will be provided further information if he requests discovery.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Psychology issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Psychologist's License Number PSY7354, issued to Bradley Alfred Manning, Ph.D.;
- 2. Ordering Bradley Alfred Manning, Ph.D. to pay the Board of Psychology the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, and, if placed on probation, the costs of probation monitoring;
 - 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: March 19, 2001

THOMAS S. O'CONNOR

Executive Officer Board of Psychology

Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California

Complainant

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DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY CERTIFIED MAIL

In the Matter of the Accusation Filed Against: Manning, Bradley A., Ph.D.

No: W208

I, the undersigned, declare that I am over 18 years of age and not a party to the within cause; my business address is 1422 Howe Avenue, Sacramento, California 95825. I served a true copy of the attached:

DECISION AND ORDER

by mail on each of the following, by placing same in an envelope (or envelopes) addressed (respectively) as follows:

NAME AND ADDRESS

CERT NO.

Bradley A. Manning, Ph.D. 2321 Walgrove Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90066

7001 2510 0001 2147 2209

Christopher J. Zopatti
Callaham, McCune & Willis LLP
111 Fashion Lane, Tustin, CA 92780

Rajpal S. Dhillon Deputy Attorney General 300 South Spring Street, Ste. 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013

Each said envelope was then, on <u>February 27, 2002</u> sealed and deposited in the United States mail at Sacramento, California, the county in which I am employed, as certified mail, with the postage thereon fully prepaid, and return receipt requested.

Executed on <u>February 27, 2002</u> at Sacramento, California. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Kathi Burns DECLARANT